

CA Takes Charge of Recruits

By Spc. Al Barrus
122nd MPAD

BAGHDAD, Iraq - While Iraqi Police applicants lined up outside Camp Hawk for screening Oct. 3, the newly deployed Soldiers of the 414th Civil Affairs [CA] Battalion from Utica, N.Y. got the chance to experience their area of operation and learn more about the people of Baghdad.

Since the 425th CA, 2nd Brigade Combat Team, 1st Cavalry Division, will be heading home soon; they are integrating the 414th CA into civil military operations (CMO). The 414th CA has been in country for two weeks, and this event gave them the opportunity to get familiar with working with the Iraqi people.

"This is an outstanding mission for us to be doing with the new [CA] team," said Capt. Marc Chung, a team leader in 425th CA. "We have already taken them on some patrols to see some projects, but this is what it's all about. Working with the Iraqi people and working with the [Neighborhood Councils]."

When the teams arrived at the recruitment area, the veteran team set up stations and showed the newcomers the ropes.

"You can see right now a lot of my guys are hanging back," Chung said. "We have the new guys... learning their part at the processing stations and have them taking over."

As the new Soldiers gained some know-how of the event and environment, hopeful Iraqi men stood in line waiting to take tests in order to be accepted into Iraqi Police basic training.

"All the men here have been given a recommendation by their [NC] which shows they have been somewhat screened for fitness and literacy," said Spc. Justin Cardoza of 425th CA. "Here we have them take the [physical training] test consisting of push-ups, sit-ups, pull-ups, and 100-meter dash."

Cardoza said the next station would test Arabic literacy, then they would be given a physical exam and urinalysis. The final step is a background screening, after which they are given a letter of acceptance and orders to report back to Camp Hawk.

It was a tough time for many of the applicants. During these recruitments, only about 40 percent pass to go on to police school in Jordan. For those who fail, it's another day they go without work. But for some, becoming an Iraqi policeman is more than just a job.

"I have always wanted to serve my country and protect my family and fellow Iraqis from the terrorists that threaten us everyday," said Husam Hamadi, a graduate of Baghdad University. "I think serving in the Iraqi police as an officer is the best way for me to do this."



By Spc. Al Barrus, 122nd MPAD

Spc. Justin Cardoza of the 425th Civil Affairs Battalion sets up the literacy screening station at the Iraqi police recruiting outside Camp Hawk Oct. 3. As Cardoza's unit prepares to re-deploy back to the U.S., they are helping integrate their replacements, the 414th CA, into their operations during this event.

It's citizens like these that give the 414th CA Soldiers the motivation to get the ball rolling on making improvements to help make a better life for the people in Baghdad," Chung said. "It's not only important for the 414th to take over, but to also make improvements over time in not only events like these, but the civil affairs mission as a whole."

Chung said they do not want to have to turn away Iraqis who want to help protect their country.

"If the applicants do get rejected for any reason, we would like to have contractors standing by with jobs available," Chung said. "It's something that just helps get them into the system, and we don't have to turn patriotic Iraqi people away."

Iraqi Children Get a Kick from Donation

By Pfc. Brian Schroeder
10th Mtn. Div. Public Affairs

BAGHDAD, Iraq - Thousands of years ago soccer was played using the bladder of animals, such as goats. Much to the goat's relief, Soldiers from the 425th Civil Affairs Battalion, attached to the 1st Cavalry Division, paid a visit to a local community, to drop off new soccer balls for a group of local children.

Thirty Iraqi children were recently outfitted with brand new soccer equipment, which was donated by a group of 50 residents from around the Tulsa, Okla. Holly Nester, an employee of WilTel Communications, organized a fund drive to purchase the equipment for the kids. She gathered more than \$1,500 in donations to purchase soccer balls, socks, shin guards, cleats and water bottles, and to cover shipping costs for the equipment.

Nester was born in Kuwait and raised in Iran until the late 1970s. She approached Sgt. Richard Porter, 425th Civil Affairs Battalion sergeant, and an employee of WilTel at



By Pfc. Brian Schroeder, 10th Mtn. Div. Public Affairs

Spc. Zachary Reisz, 425th Civil Affairs Battalion civil affairs specialist plays soccer with an Iraqi child. Soccer equipment to outfit two teams was contributed and shipped directly to an Iraqi village from a group of donors in Tulsa, Okla.

their Los Angeles office, with the idea of donating soccer equipment to Iraqi children.

"Holly said she has many fond memories of growing up and playing soccer with the local kids in her neighborhood," Porter said. "She said that she wanted to do some-

thing soccer related for a few Iraqi children. Holly approached me for help because of where I am stationed and the nature of my job. We gave her contact information of a local Iraqi, who could receive the donation. The gear was then shipped directly to our contact in the vil-

lage, who then delivered everything to the team's coach for distribution to the players."

The majority of the projects civil affairs Soldiers undertake are funded through the commander's emergency response program funds. These projects include providing water pumps, generators or refurbishing schools in local Iraqi communities. Other items given to Iraqi citizens, such as shoes, clothes or soccer equipment are paid for through individual or group donations.

Maj. Robert Misajon, 425th Civil Affairs Battalion team leader said that Soldiers cannot ask for donations directly.

"The more direct the donors can be with the locals is better because we can't ask Soldiers to solicit donations," he said. "In this case they asked us where they could send the equipment and we put them in touch with a local national who they shipped the equipment to directly. Holly said she wants to keep sending more stuff, and with the connection she made with the local national, she will be able to."

Useful Iraqi Words/Phrases

That's outrageous!
haaza junoonee

Wednesday

High: 100
Low: 72



Thursday

High: 98
Low: 70



Friday

High: 98
Low: 68



Weather information provided by 1CD Staff Weather Office (SWO)

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News Notes

US Scientists Share Nobel Prize

STOCKHOLM, Sweden (AP) - Two Americans won the Nobel Prize in medicine Monday for discovering how people can recognize an estimated 10,000 odors, from spoiled meat to a lover's perfume. Dr. Richard Axel, 58, of Columbia University and Linda B. Buck, 57, of the Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center in Seattle revealed odor-sensing proteins in the nose and traced how they send their information to the brain.

Rocket Wins \$10M Prize for Space Trip

MOJAVE, Calif. (AP) - A stubby rocket plane soared off a Mojave desert runway Monday strapped to the belly of a carrier plane, shooting for the edge of the Earth's atmosphere and a \$10 million prize, and a short time later, reached space and the history books. Microsoft co-founder Paul G. Allen's SpaceShipOne launched Monday morning on the belly of a carrier plane. After about an hour, the plane released SpaceShipOne in an attempt to continue on its own to an altitude of at least 328,000 feet, or just over 62 miles, for the second time since Sept. 29. About an hour after it landed, Ansari X Prize founder Peter Diamandis announced that SpaceShipOne's team had won the \$10 million prize.



Austin American-Statesman

As a storm front moved into Austin from the northwest, this single two-second exposure made from the south banks of Town Lake near Joe's Crab Shack captured multiple lightning strikes over the city skyline.

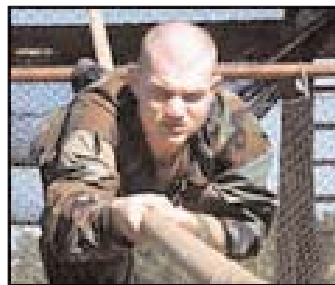
Command Hits Recruiting Goals

WASHINGTON (Army News) - For the fifth year in a row, the U.S. Army Recruiting Command hit its fiscal year active-duty and Reserve recruiting goals.

As of Sept. 27, the command brought in 77,587 active Army recruits against a Department of the Army mission of 77,000, and 21,278 Reserve recruits against a 21,000 requirement.

"Recruiting Command has served the nation well for the past 40 years and I am positive it will continue to serve well for the next 40 years at least," said Maj. Gen. Michael E. Rochelle, Recruiting Command commanding general, during a media briefing at the command's Fort Knox, Ky. Headquarters.

Rochelle acknowledged that current operations in Iraq and Afghanistan may be seen as a drawback by some



Army News

A Soldier trains on an obstacle course during Basic Combat Training.

young people who would otherwise serve. However, he said, those operations are seen by others as a call to serve a nation in need.

"There are hundreds in the training base that will tell you they want to make a difference," Rochelle said.

The current generation of young Soldiers is about as close to the "Greatest Generation" of the World War II era as you can get, Rochelle said. They are not asking, "What's in it for

me?" like some recent generations and the nation is lucky to have them, he said.

Speaking about a recent news article that claimed the Army had relaxed its entry standards in order to get recruits, Rochelle said the article was very misleading. The Army standard for the past five years has been for at least 90 percent of all recruits to be high school graduates. The lowest acceptable score of the Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery, known as Category IV, to no more than two percent of all recruits, he said. Recruiting Command met those standards each of the past five years.

The confusion comes in with an intermediate headquarters requiring tougher recruiting standards than the requirements issued by Department of the Army, Rochelle said.

KC BBQs Birds in Baltimore

BALTIMORE (AP) - The Kansas City Chiefs bullied the Baltimore Ravens with a dominant performance that belied their stature as a winless team.

The Chiefs wore down the highly touted Baltimore defense with an impressive display of ball control, and held on for a 27-24 victory Monday night.

Priest Holmes ran for 125 yards and two touchdowns, and the Chiefs nearly doubled the Ravens in total yardage and time of possession.

The result was a satisfying win that enabled the Chiefs City to restore a measure of normalcy to a season that was in danger of going awry.

"This doesn't get us into the playoffs, but it gets us going," coach Dick



Baltimore Ravens wide receiver Kevin Johnson, right, can't get a hand on a pass as Kansas City Chiefs safety Greg Wesley (25) defends.

Vermeil said.

Trent Green went 21-for-31 for 223 yards to help Kansas City (1-3) to its first win since Dec. 28. After going 13-3 a year ago, the Chiefs were off to their worst start since 1980.

"This is a heck of a win. We needed it," Chiefs president Carl Peterson said on his way the locker room.

Kansas City finished with a 398-207 advantage in total net yards and held the ball for 39 minutes, 43 seconds.

Through three quarters, Kansas City had 22 first downs compared to four for the Ravens. A 1-yard touchdown run by Holmes on the first play of the fourth quarter put the Chiefs up 27-17, and that proved to be enough to end the Ravens' seven-game home winning streak.

"We were fortunate to do it in Raven-esque fashion," Chiefs defensive end Eric Hicks said. "People have been talking and putting us down, but we're making a turnaround."

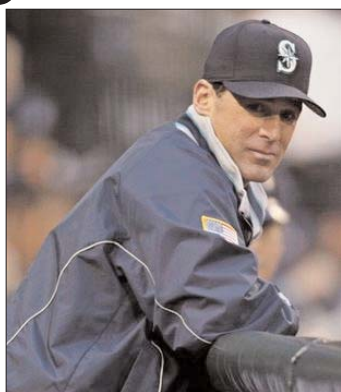
Seattle Says: Melvin Must Go

SEATTLE (AP) - Bob Melvin is out as manager of the Seattle Mariners. If there's a bright side, he's sure getting a glowing performance review from the guy who let him go.

Melvin was fired Monday, a day after Seattle ended its worst season in 12 years with its 99th loss. He lasted two seasons, getting the news during a congenial but difficult meeting with general manager Bill Bavasi.

"There is a point where you shed a tear," Bavasi said. "It's really difficult. It is awful."

The GM said the decision "crystalized in my mind" over the past five or six days, and that team chairman Howard Lincoln and president Chuck Armstrong supported the move. However, Bavasi



Seattle Mariners manager Bob Melvin looks back at the bench during the game against Minnesota Twins in Seattle in this, May 4, 2004.

refused to explain the reasons.

"I shared those with Bob. It was a real private conversation," he said.

Melvin, who led the Mariners to a 93-69 record

in 2003 after Lou Piniella left for Tampa Bay, wasn't available for comment.

He indicated to reporters Sunday that he still wanted to manage the Mariners, but Melvin might get another chance elsewhere.

Bavasi said he called an undisclosed club to suggest Melvin be considered for a managerial vacancy. During a lengthy news conference, Bavasi spoke highly of Melvin and insisted the Seattle organization liked him.

"To the untrained eye, I'm talking out of both sides of my mouth," Bavasi said. "We just let him go, but I'm recommending him. In this crazy business, that fits because he will do things differently the second time. He had some bad luck here."

In Brief

Harrison Items Stolen from Family

LITTLE ROCK, Ark. (AP) - Pictures of former Beatle George Harrison were taken from his sister's car while she was donating memorabilia to the Clinton Presidential Library, she said Monday. Lou Harrison said someone shattered a window of her car and stole a briefcase containing photos of her and her brother and the lyrics to a number of her brother's songs. "(The items are) precious to me obviously because I don't have my brother in person any more," she told KTHV-TV of Little Rock.

Pippen to Retire After 17 Seasons

DEERFIELD, Ill. (AP) - Scottie Pippen, who teamed with Michael Jordan to form a tandem that drove the Chicago Bulls to six NBA titles in the 1990s, is expected to retire after 17 seasons, an NBA source said Monday. The source, speaking on the condition of anonymity, said Pippen is scheduled to make the announcement Tuesday on the Bulls' first day of training camp practice. The team held its media day Monday and Pippen was not present. His agent, Jimmy Sexton, did not immediately return a call for comment Monday night.

